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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/893,964	06/29/2001	Yun Bok Lee	8733.452.00	6107

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EXAMINER

RAO, SHRINIVAS H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2814

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/893,964

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Examiner

Steven H. Rao

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 July 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other:

Response to Amendment

Applicants' amendment filed on July 17, 2003 has been entered on July 22, 2003.

Therefore claims 1, 10 and 19 as amended by the amendment and claims 2-9, 11-18 and 20-30 as recited in the amendment are currently pending in the Application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lee et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,946,066, hereinafter Lee).

With respect to claim 1 Lee describes a liquid crystal display device comprising: a plurality of gate lines (Lee fig. 3 A # 11, col. 2 line 41-42) a plurality of data lines, crossing said gate lines, such that at least one pixel region is defined by the data and gate lines, (fig. 3 A # 12, col. 2 lines 42-45) at least one of said data lines defining the pixel region having a first data line section and a second data line section, the first data line section and the second data line section intersecting at a data line bent portion (fig. 3A # 12 is bent) at least one data electrode in the pixel region, the data electrode having a first data electrode section and a second data electrode section, the first data electrode section and the second data electrode section intersecting at a

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data electrode bent portion; (Lee figure 3a # 13, col. 2 lines 60-65) at least one common electrode in the pixel region, the common electrode having a first common electrode section and a second common electrode section, the first common electrode section and the second common electrode section intersecting at a common electrode bent portion; (Lee fig. 3 A #14, col. 2 lines 58-61) and at least one common line in the pixel region (Lee col.2 lines 63-64), the common electrode crossing the data lines, the data electrode, and the common electrode. (Lee figs. 3a, b etc.) and wherein the common line is formed on a different layer from the gate electrode (Lee figure 3A, col.2 lines 60-65)..

With respect to claim 3 Lee describes the liquid crystal display device of claim 1, wherein the common line is substantially parallel to the gate line. (Lee figs. 3 a,b).

With respect to claim 8 Lee describes the liquid crystal display device of claim 1, wherein the data electrodes partially overlap at least one of the gate lines. (Lee figs. 3 a, b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.

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Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, 4-7 and 9 to 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,946,066, hereinafter Lee) as applied to claim 1 above and further in view of Asada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,745,207, herein after Asada).

With respect to claim 2, Lee describes the liquid crystal display device of claim 1. wherein the common line crosses the data line at the data line bent portion. (Lee 3b # 11 intersecting 12, col. 2 lines 42-44).

Lee does not specifically state the common line crosses data electrode at the data electrode bent portion, and the common electrode at the common electrode bent portion.

However, Asada in Figure 3 and col. 6 lines 56-65 describes the common line crosses data electrode at the data electrode bent portion, and the common electrode at the common electrode bent portion to compensate the coloring corresponding to the angle of view and the total non-display area can be reduced.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include Asada's arrangement of the common line crosses data electrode at the data electrode bent portion, and the common electrode at the common electrode bent portion in Lee's device to compensate the coloring corresponding to the angle of view and the total non-display area can be reduced. (Asada col. 3 lines 60- to col. 4 lines 5).

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With respect to claim 4 Lee describes the liquid crystal display device of claim 1, wherein the first data line section, the first data electrode section, and the first common electrode section are substantially parallel. (Lee figures 3 a,b).

With respect to claims 5 to 7 Lee describes the liquid crystal display device of claim 1, wherein the common lines , data electrodes and common electrodes comprise a transparent conductive material (Asada col. 1 line 34-35).

With respect to claim 9 Lee describes the liquid crystal display device of claim 1, wherein a storage capacitor is formed where the common line crosses the data electrode. (Asada col. 1 line 40).

With respect to claim 10 Lee describes a liquid crystal display device comprising: a plurality of gate lines; a plurality of data lines, crossing said gate lines, such that at least one pixel region is defined by the data and gate lines, at least one of said data lines defining the pixel region, the data lines having a plurality of data line segments, the data line segments intersecting at data line bent portions; at least one data electrode in the pixel region, the data electrode having a plurality of data electrode segments, the data electrode segments intersecting at common electrode bent portions; and at least one common electrode in the pixel region, the common electrode having a plurality of common electrode segments, the segments intersecting at common electrode bent portions; and at least one light shielding layer on the pixel region, the light shielding layer crossing the data lines the data electrode, and the common electrode at respective ones of the data line bent portions, the data electrode bent portions and the common electrode bent portions wherein the light shielding layer is

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formed on a different layer from gate lines. (Lee figure 3 B , col.3 lines 8-15) and are rejected for the same reasons as claims 1-9 above) .

With respect to claim 11, Lee The device of claim 10, wherein one of the light shielding layers is a common line. (Lee col. 2 lines 63-65 and Asada col.5 line30)

With respect to claim 12 Lee describes An in-plane switching mode liquid crystal display device comprising: gate lines formed on a substrate; data lines having a plurality of bent portions to cross the gate lines, the data and gate lines defining a pixel region; a plurality of data electrodes and common electrodes having a plurality of bent portions; a common line on the bent portions of the data lines, the data electrodes and the common electrodes; and a plurality of auxiliary common lines on the bent portions of the data electrodes and the common electrodes. Rejected for same reasons as claims 1 and 10 above).

With respect to claim 13 Lee describes the device of claim 12, wherein the common lines are formed in parallel with the gate lines. (Asada fig. 2,etc.).

With respect to claims 14 to 16 Lee describes the device of claim 12, wherein the common lines, data electrodes and common electrodes include transparent conductive film. (rejected for the same reasons as set out under claims 5-7 above).

With respect to claim 17 Lee describes the device of claim 12, wherein at least one of the common lines is formed within the pixel region. (rejected for the same reasons as stated under claim1 above).

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With respect to claim 18 Lee describes the device of claim 12, wherein the data lines, the data electrodes, and the common electrodes have at least one bent portion. (Lee figs. 3a,b)

With respect to claim 19 Lee describes the device of claim 12, wherein the common lines are formed integrally with the common electrodes. (Asada fig. 2 etc.)

With respect to claim 20 Lee describes the device of claim 12, wherein the data electrodes are connected with the gate lines. (Lee col.2 lines 62-65, Asada fig. 2)

With respect to claim 21 Lee describes the device of claim 12, wherein the data electrodes overlap the gate lines.(Lee figs. 3a,b and Asada fig.2).

With respect to claim 22 Lee describes the device of claim 12, wherein the data and common electrodes are on different layers. .(Lee figs. 3a,b and Asada col.1 lines 41-65).

With respect to claim 23, Lee describes the device of claim 12, further comprising a light shielding layer on the bent portion between the data electrodes and the common electrodes. (Lee col. 2 lines 63-65 and Asada col.5 line30).

With respect to claim 24 Lee describes an in-plane switching mode liquid crystal display device, comprising: gate lines on a substrate; data lines having a plurality of bent portions to cross the gate lines, the data and gate lines defining a pixel region; a plurality of data electrodes having a plurality of bent portions; common electrodes having a plurality of bent portions, the common electrodes being connected with each other at the bent portions; and common lines on the bent portions of the data lines, the

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data electrodes and the common electrodes. (rejected for the same reasons as claims 1,10 and 12 above).

With respect to claim 25 Lee describes the device of claim 24, wherein the data electrodes are connected with the gate lines. (Asada figure 2)

With respect to claim 26 Lee describes the device of claim 24, wherein the common electrodes are connected with the common lines. (Asada figs. 2, 3)

With respect to claim 27 Lee describes the device of claim 24, wherein the data electrodes include a first electrode and a second electrode. (Lee fig.3a,b etc. and Asada figs. 2)

With respect to claim 28 Lee describes the device of claim 27 wherein the first electrode has a plurality of bent portions. (Lee fig.3a,b etc. and Asada figs. 2)

With respect to claim 29 Lee describes the device of claim 27, wherein the first electrode is connected with the second electrode. (Lee fig.3a,b etc. and Asada figs. 2)

With respect to claim 30 Lee describes the device of claim 24, further comprising a light shielding layer on the bent portion between the data electrodes and the common electrodes. (Lee col. 2 lines 63-65 and Asada col.5 line 30).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on 7/22/2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive because Lee describes at least one common line in the pixel region, the common line crossing the data lines, the data electrode and the common electrode wherein the common line is formed on a different layer from the gate line as shown above in the rejection.

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Similarly for reasons stated above in the rejections the combination of Lee and Asada teach/describe the following limitations :

at least one common line in the pixel region (Lee col.2 lines 63-64), the common electrode crossing the data lines, the data electrode, and the common electrode. (Lee figs. 3a, b etc.) and wherein the common line is formed on a different layer from the gate electrode (Lee figure 3A, col.2 lines 60-65)..

at least one light shielding layer on the pixel region, the light shielding layer crossing the data lines the data electrode, and the common electrode at respective ones of the data line bent portions, the data electrode bent portions and the common electrode bent portions wherein the light shielding layer is formed on a different layer from gate lines. (Lee figure 3 B , col.3 lines 8-15) and are rejected for the same reasons as claims 1-9 above) .

a plurality of auxiliary common lines on the bent portions of the data electrodes and the common electrodes. Rejected for same reasons as claims 1 and 10 above).

common lines on the bent portions of the data lines, the data electrodes and the common electrodes. (rejected for the same reasons as claims 1,10 and 12 above).

Therefore all the presently recited claim limitations are taught by the applied prior art of record.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

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§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

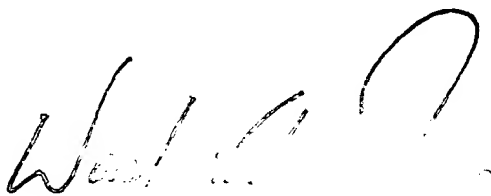
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Steven H. Rao whose telephone number is (703) 306-5584. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday from approximately 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956. The Group facsimile number is (703) 308-7724.


Steven H. Rao

Patent Examiner

September 24, 2003.


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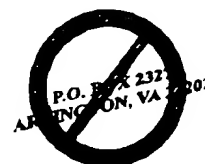
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Also effective May 1, 2003, the USPTO is changing the special Box designations for **Patents and Trademarks to corresponding Mail Stop designations** (e.g., "Box 4" will now be "Mail Stop 4").

For further information, see *Correspondence with the United States Patent and Trademark Office*, 68 *Fed. Reg.* 14332 (March 25, 2003). A copy of the *Federal Register* notice is available on the USPTO's web site at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/menu/current.html#register>

A listing of specific USPTO mailing addresses (See Patents – specific) will be available on the USPTO's web site on April 15, 2003 at <http://www.uspto.gov/main/contacts.htm>

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Questions regarding the content of this flyer should be directed to the Inventor Assistance Center at (703) 308-4357 or toll-free at 1-800-786-9199.

REVISED AMENDMENT PRACTICE: 37 CFR 1.121 CHANGED COMPLIANCE IS MANDATORY - Effective Date: July 30, 2003

All amendments filed on or after the effective date noted above must comply with revised 37 CFR 1.121. See Final Rule: **Changes To Implement Electronic Maintenance of Official Patent Application Records** (68 Fed. Reg. 38611 (June 30, 2003)), posted on the Office's website at: <http://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/ifw/> with related information. The amendment practice set forth in revised 37 CFR 1.121, and described below, replaces the voluntary revised amendment format available to applicants since February 2003. **NOTE: STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH THE REVISED 37 CFR 1.121 IS REQUIRED AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE (July 30, 2003).** The Office will notify applicants of amendments that are not accepted because they do not comply with revised 37 CFR 1.121 via a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. See MPEP 714.03 (Rev. 1, Feb. 2003). The non-compliant section(s) will have to be corrected and the entire corrected section(s) resubmitted within a set period.

Bold underlined italic font has been used below to highlight the major differences between the revised 37 CFR 1.121 and the voluntary revised amendment format that applicants could use since February, 2003.

Note: The amendment practice for reissues and reexamination proceedings, except for drawings, has not changed.

REVISED AMENDMENT PRACTICE

I. Begin each section of an amendment document on a separate sheet:

Each section of an amendment document (e.g., Specification Amendments, Claim Amendments, Drawing Amendments, and Remarks) must begin on a separate sheet. Starting each separate section on a new page will facilitate the process of separately indexing and scanning each section of an amendment document for placement in an image file wrapper.

II. Two versions of amended part(s) no longer required:

37 CFR 1.121 has been revised to **no longer require** two versions (a clean version and a marked up version) of each replacement paragraph or section, or amended claim. Note, however, the requirements for a clean version and a marked up version for **substitute specifications** under 37 CFR 1.125 have been retained.

A) Amendments to the claims:

Each amendment document that includes a change to an existing claim, cancellation of a claim or submission of a new claim, **must include a complete listing** of all claims in the application. After each claim number in the listing, the status must be indicated in a parenthetical expression, and **the text of each pending claim** (with markings to show **current** changes) must be presented. The claims in the listing will replace all prior claims in the application.

- (1) The current status of all of the claims in the application, including any previously canceled, not entered or withdrawn claims, must be given in a parenthetical expression following the claim number using only one of the following seven status identifiers: (original), (currently amended), (canceled), (withdrawn), (new), **(previously presented) and (not entered)**. The text of all pending claims, **including withdrawn claims**, must be submitted each time any claim is amended. Canceled **and not entered** claims must be indicated by only the claim number and status, without presenting the text of the claims.
- (2) The text of all claims **being currently amended** must be presented in the claim listing with markings to indicate the changes that have been made relative to the immediate prior version. The changes in any amended claim must be shown by underlining (for added matter) or strikethrough (for deleted matter) with 2 exceptions: (1) **for deletion of five characters or fewer, double brackets may be used (e.g., [[error]]); and (2) if strikethrough cannot be easily perceived (e.g., deletion of the number "4" or certain punctuation marks), double brackets must be used (e.g., [[4]]).** **As an alternative to using double brackets, however, extra portions of text may be included before and after text being deleted, all in strikethrough, followed by including and underlining the extra text with the desired change (e.g., ~~number 1 as number 14 as~~).** An accompanying clean version is not required and should not be presented. Only claims of the status "currently amended," and "withdrawn" that are being amended, may include markings.
- (3) The text of pending claims **not being currently amended, including withdrawn claims**, must be presented in the claim listing in clean version, i.e., without any markings. Any claim text presented in clean version will constitute an assertion that it has not been changed relative to the immediate prior version except to omit markings that may have been present in the immediate prior version of the claims.

- (4) A claim being canceled must be listed in the claim listing with the status identifier "canceled"; the text of the claim must not be presented. Providing an instruction to cancel is optional.
- (5) Any claims added by amendment must be presented in the claim listing with the status identifier "(new)"; the text of the claim must not be underlined.
- (6) All of the claims in the claim listing must be presented in ascending numerical order. Consecutive canceled, or not entered, claims may be aggregated into one statement (e.g., Claims 1 – 5 (canceled)).

Example of listing of claims (use of the word "claim" before the claim number is optional):

Claims 1-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (previously presented): A bucket with a handle.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): A handle comprising an elongated wire.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The handle of claim 7 further comprising a plastic grip.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A bucket with a ~~green~~ blue handle.

Claim 10 (original): The bucket of claim 9 wherein the handle is made of wood.

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (not entered)

Claim 13 (new): A bucket with plastic sides and bottom.

B) Amendments to the specification:

Amendments to the specification, including the abstract, must be made by presenting a replacement paragraph or section or abstract marked up to show changes made relative to the immediate prior version. An accompanying clean version is not required and should not be presented. Newly added paragraphs or sections, including a new abstract (instead of a replacement abstract), must not be underlined. A replacement or new abstract must be submitted on a separate sheet, 37 CFR 1.72. If a substitute specification is being submitted to incorporate extensive amendments, both a clean version (which will be entered) and a marked up version must be submitted as per 37 CFR 1.125.

The changes in any replacement paragraph or section, or substitute specification must be shown by underlining (for added matter) or strikethrough (for deleted matter) with 2 exceptions: (1) for deletion of five characters or fewer, double brackets may be used (e.g., [[error]]); and (2) if strikethrough cannot be easily perceived (e.g., deletion of the number "4" or certain punctuation marks), double brackets must be used (e.g., [[4]]). As an alternative to using double brackets, however, extra portions of text may be included before and after text being deleted, all in strikethrough, followed by including and underlining the extra text with the desired change (e.g., number 4 as number 14 as)

C) Amendments to drawing figures:

Drawing changes must be made by presenting replacement figures which incorporate the desired changes and which comply with 37 CFR 1.84. An explanation of the changes made must be presented either in the drawing amendments, or remarks, section of the amendment, and may be accompanied by a marked-up copy of one or more of the figures being amended, with annotations. Any replacement drawing sheet must be identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet" and include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even though only one figure may be amended. Any marked-up (annotated) copy showing changes must be labeled "Annotated Marked-up Drawings" and accompany the replacement sheet in the amendment (e.g., as an appendix). The figure or figure number of the amended drawing(s) must not be labeled as "amended." If the changes to the drawing figure(s) are not accepted by the examiner, applicant will be notified of any required corrective action in the next Office action. No further drawing submission will be required, unless applicant is notified.

Questions regarding the submission of amendments pursuant to the revised practice set forth in this flyer should be directed to: Elizabeth Dougherty or Gena Jones, Legal Advisors, or Joe Narcavage, Senior Special Projects Examiner, Office of Patent Legal Administration, by e-mail to patentpractice@uspto.gov or by phone at (703) 305-1616.